(b) what steps Government propose to fake to protest rights gf the legitimate cassets producers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARMiENTs OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) Through newspaper reports ^nd representations received, the Government are aware that piracy of music casettes still exists in the country.

(b) As a measure to check piracy, the Copyright Act, 1957 has been amended by the Copyright (Amendment) Act, 1984 by which the punishment for copyright infringement has been increased and made mandatory so as to have a deterrent effect on the incidence of piracy. Punishment has been increased for second and subsequent convictions. Copyright infringement has also been made a cognisable offence. It has also been declared as an Economic Offence so that the Period of limitation provided in the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 for offences will not be applicable to this offence. The producers of records are required to display particulars of copyright ownership etc. on the record as well as the container thereof, so as to prima-focie distinguish genuine records.

Under the provisions of the Indian Copyright Act. 1957, copyright is a pro^ prietary right and it is for the. owners of copyright to institute civil or criminal proceedings in the appropriate court of law for enforcement of their rights.

Misappropriation of funds in *the* Kendriya Hindi Sansthan

1236. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased *to* state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Dirctor of the Kendriya Hindi Sansthan was invoved in misappriation of funds to the tune Rs. Seven lakhs and was found guilty by a Committee appointed by the Ministry of Human Resource Development but no action has since been taken against him; and

(b) if so, what are the details there-- of and the reasons ther^or? |

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCAtlON AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI); (a) and (b) On the basis of the complaints received about alleged financial and administrative irregularities, the Ministry constituted an In.specton Team in September. 1981 to enqnire into the allegations. The Governing Council of the Sansthan in its meeting held on 2nd July, 1982, empowered the Chairman of the Kendriya Hindi Sansthan (Union Deputy Minister for Education, Culture and Social Welfare) to constitute a subcommittee of the Governing Council to examine the report of the Inspection Team and *to* scrutinise the items purchased by the Sansthan. The Chairman was authorised to take a decision on the report o"f the Sub-Committee. *The* sub-committee so constituted submitted its report to the Chairman in August, 1982. After considering the report, it was found that there were no mala fide intentions and the purchases had been made keeping iff view the needs of the Sansthan particularly those arising from the expansion of its activities. It was decided to regularise the purchases and settle payments with various parties. The Government decided to close the case. The above decision of the Chairman was also reported to the members of the Governing Council and Mandal in the meetings held on 9th and lOth April. 1983.

Foreign companies engaged in Shipping Industry in India

1237. gHKI RAMCHANDRA BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of TRANS- " PORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of foreoign companies are working in the shipping industry in India; and

(b) if so, what are their names al--ongwith the names of the countries?'